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The  
Massachusetts Historical Society

1791-1959

By STEPHEN T. RILEY

*Director of the Society*



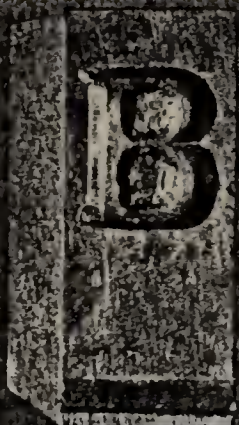
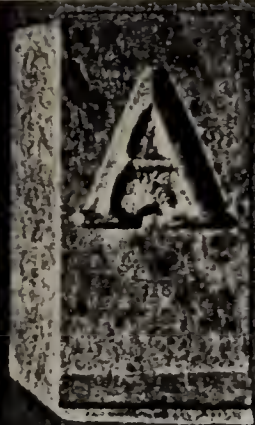
BOSTON

Massachusetts Historical Society

1959







The  
Massachusetts  
Historical Society  
1791-1959



*A Massachusetts  
Historical Society*  
PICTURE BOOK







The Massachusetts Historical Society  
1791-1959



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844 MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, BOSTON.  
.5543 — The Massachusetts Historical Society, 1791-  
1959. By Stephen T. Riley, Director of the  
Society. Boston, 1959.  
62p. illus., ports., facsims. 22cm.

"A Massachusetts Historical Society Picture  
book."

1. Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston.  
I. Riley, Stephen T. II. Title.

Gift '64



ICN 65-0345





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THE ANTHOENSEN PRESS, Portland, Maine, in Linotype  
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Gift to  
Massachusetts Historical  
Society

## The Society: Past and Present





societies, the Puritan interest in history, and the strong feeling of patriotism that gripped the country after the Revolution and the adoption of the federal and state constitutions. It remained for Dr. Belknap, however, to give form and motion to these desires; and to him goes the credit of being the founder of the first historical society in this country.

Before returning to Boston in 1787 to accept the Federal Street pastorate, Dr. Belknap had served for twenty years as minister of the church in Dover, New Hampshire, where he began his *History of New Hampshire*, the first volume of which appeared in 1784, the third and last in 1792. With this work in mind William Cullen Bryant was later to say that to Jeremy Belknap belonged "the high merit of being the first to make American history attractive." In the course of his researches Belknap acquired many valuable manuscripts. His real concern for the future safety of these manuscripts led him to seek out other like-minded people who would join with him in establishing a common depository. Four gentlemen expressed interest in Belknap's plan, and they and Belknap later asked five friends to co-operate with them in the enterprise. All accepted, and eight of these ten original members met on January 24, 1791, to organize what was first called "The Historical Society"—a name changed in 1794 to the "Massachusetts Historical Society."

In its constitution the new organization set forth its aims:

The preservation of books, pamphlets, manuscripts, and records, containing historical facts, biographical anecdotes, temporary projects, and beneficial speculations, conduces to mark the genius, delineate the manners, and trace the progress of society in the United States, and must always have a useful tendency to rescue the true history of this country from the ravages of time and the effects of ignorance and neglect.

A collection of observations and descriptions in natural history and topography, together with specimens of natural and artificial curiosities, and a selection of every thing which can improve and promote the historical knowledge of our country, either in a physical or political view, has long been considered as a desideratum; and, as



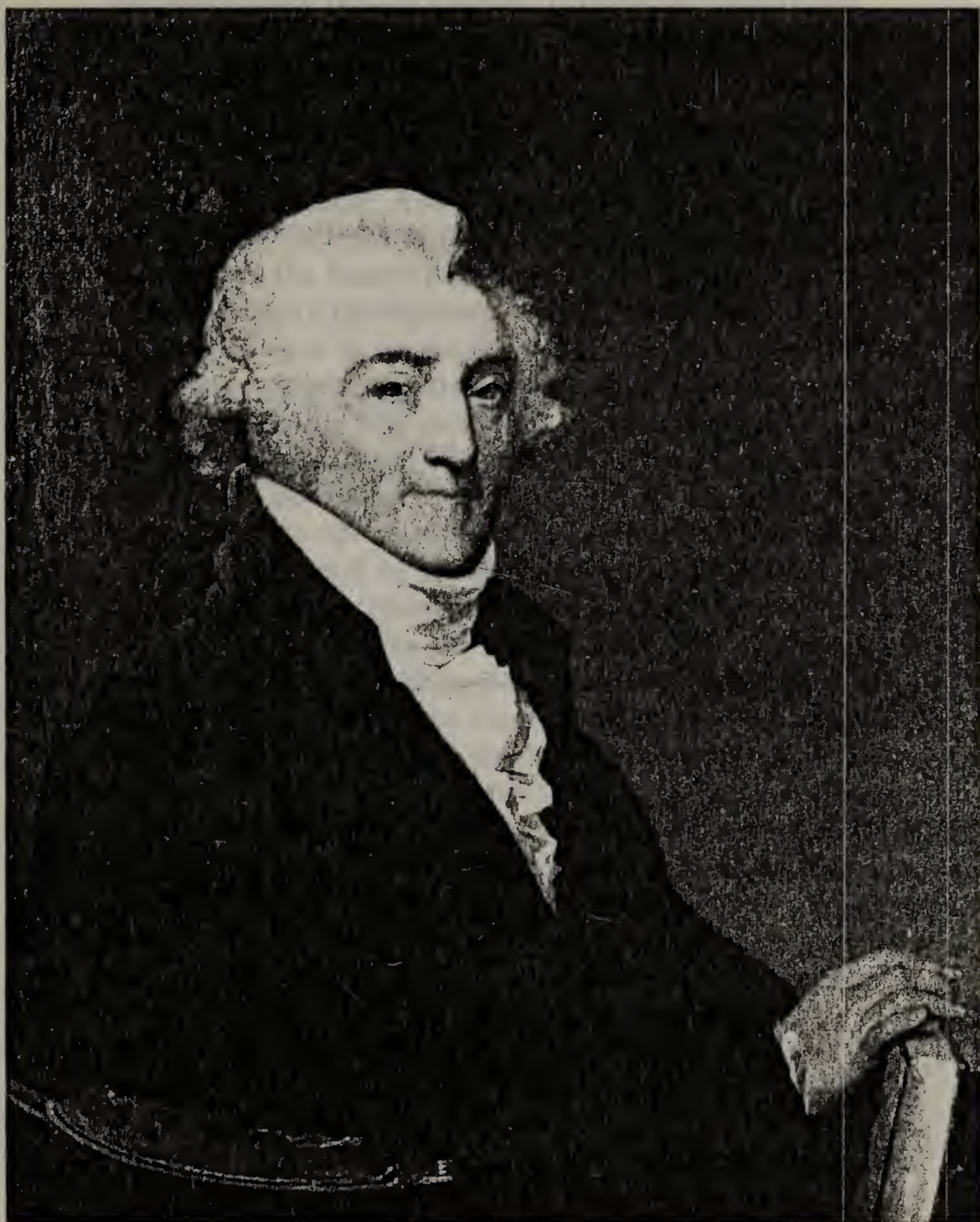




Jeremy Belknap, Founder of the Society  
By Henry Sargent







James Sullivan, First President of the Society  
By Gilbert Stuart





such a plan can be best executed by a society whose sole and special care shall be confined to the above objects, we, the subscribers, do agree to form such an institution, and to associate for the above purposes.

In its efforts to promote the study of natural history the Society for many years collected specimens that would be of interest to students of that subject. About the year 1833, however, the Society decided to rid itself of this function and turned over many of its objects to the Boston Society of Natural History and, subsequently, nearly all the remaining ones to the Peabody Museum. Other societies were to repeat this pattern as they found it necessary to narrow their collecting fields.

Membership in the new society was limited to thirty residents of Massachusetts and thirty non-resident or Corresponding Members. When the Society was incorporated on February 19, 1794, mainly through the efforts of President James Sullivan, who was then Attorney General of Massachusetts, the number of Resident Members was increased to sixty. In the succeeding years numerous attempts to raise the membership limit met with considerable opposition from those Members who preferred to keep the Society small. In 1857 the General Court raised the number of Resident Members to 100 and made the first provision for Honorary Members, but it was not until 1945 that the General Court voted to grant the Society the power to elect "Resident Members, Associate Members, Corresponding Members, and Honorary Members, under such conditions, upon such terms and in such numbers as said Society may from time to time prescribe by its by-laws." On two occasions since 1945 the number of Resident Members has been increased so that it now stands at 150; the number of Corresponding Members has advanced to 75, the limit on Honorary Members remaining at 10. In its long history the Society has had fewer than 1,400 Members. Among them are the names of most of our distinguished historians, both American and foreign. We have had some member of the Adams family on our rolls since 1800, and, except for a brief period of a year or less, some member of the Winthrop family since 1791.

The first years of the Society were busy ones. With little to work with in the way of money its industrious founders had to



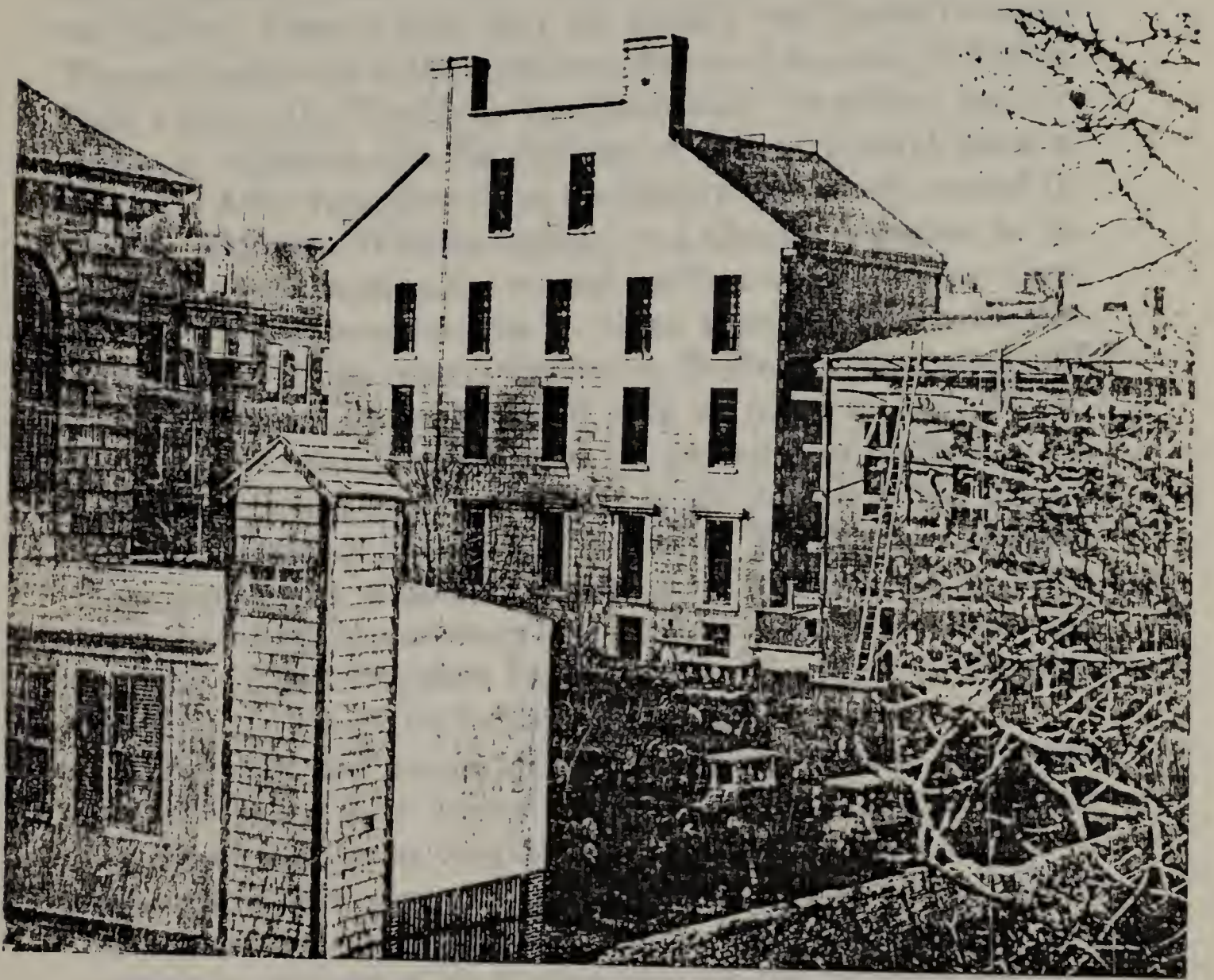




Central Pavilion, Tontine Crescent, by Charles Bulfinch  
Courtesy Boston Athenæum







Tremont Street Home of the Society, 1833-1872  
(1840 Daguerreotype and Third Oldest Photograph Made in U.S.)  
Courtesy Eastman Historical Photographic Collection





find quarters for the organization, encourage gifts of books and manuscripts to its Library, and devise some method of publishing the more important documents. Its first home was the Library Room of the Massachusetts Bank in Hamilton Place. In order to furnish it adequately the Treasurer was directed on June 30, 1791, to purchase twelve Windsor chairs, a plain pine table, and an inkwell. One of these chairs is still in the possession of the Society. About a year later the Society was forced to move. The next home was in the northwest corner of the attic of Faneuil Hall, a place, Dr. Thaddeus M. Harris said, "as retired and recondite as explorers into the recesses of antiquity could think of visiting." After two years there the Society was kindly invited by Charles Bulfinch, William Scollay, and Charles Vaughan to occupy the upper room in the central pavilion of the Tontine Crescent in what is now familiar to us as Franklin Street. On the ground floor of this central element in Bulfinch's fine crescent of dwelling houses, an arch, which gave its name to Arch Street, led through to Summer Street; on the second floor the Boston Library Society had its quarters, and on the third floor the Massachusetts Historical Society had its rooms. The Society occupied those quarters for almost forty years until March 6, 1833, when it purchased the second story and one-half of the attic of the new building of the Provident Institution for Savings on Tremont Street overlooking King's Chapel Burying Ground.

Rare books and manuscripts were easily come by. Very little competition for them existed in those early years, and volumes that would now cause considerable stir in any auction of Americana were quietly given to the Library. Fortunately Dr. Belknap believed in the direct approach. He badgered Paul Revere into writing an account of his famous ride for the Society's archives, journeyed to Lebanon, Connecticut, to pick up the manuscripts collected by Governor Jonathan Trumbull, selected suitable manuscripts and books from the papers of the late Governor John Hancock, and speculated about what might be forthcoming when Samuel Adams' "head was laid." Unfortunately Dr. Belknap predeceased Adams; otherwise Adams' papers might be in the Society today instead of in New York City. Dr. Belknap summed up his philosophy of collecting in a letter to Ebenezer Hazard in



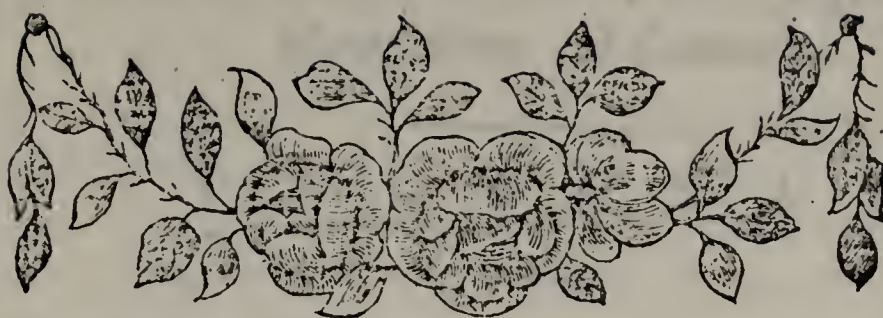


Paul Revere of Boston, in the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay  
in New England, of Lawfull Age, doth testify an say, that I was was  
sent for by Doct. Joseph Warren, of said Boston, on the evening of the  
18<sup>th</sup> of April, about 10 Clock; When he desired me, "to go to Lexington, and  
inform Mr Samuel Adams, and the Hon. John Hancock Esq", that there  
was a number of Soldiers, composed of Light troops, & Grenadiers,  
marching to the bottom of the Common, where was a number of Boats  
to receive them; it was supposed, that they were going to Lexington, by  
the way of Cambridge River, to take them, or go to Concord, to destroy  
the Colony Stores." I proceeded immediately, and was put aboard Charles, River  
and landed near Charlestown Battery, went in town, and there got  
a Horse, while in Charlestown, I was informed by Rich Devens Esq,  
that he mett that evening, after Sun set, Nine Officers of the Ministeral  
Army, mounted on good Horses, & Armed, going towards Concord; I set  
off, it was then about 11 Clock, the Moon shone bright, I had got almost  
over Charlestown Common, towards Cambridge, when I saw two Officers  
on Horse-back, standing under the shade of a Tree, in a narrow part of the  
road, I was near enough to see their Holders, & cockades; One of them stat-  
ed his horse towards me, the other up the road, as I supposed, to head me  
should I escape the first, I turned my horse short, about, and rid upon a full  
gallop for Mistick Road, he followed me about 300 Yards, and finding  
He could not catch me, returned; I proceeded to Lexington, thro Mistick  
and alarmed Mr Adams & Col. Hancock. After I had been there about half  
an hour Mr Dawes arrived, who came from Boston, over the neck; we  
set off for Concord, & were overtaken by a young Gent. named Prescott,  
who belonged to Concord, & was going home; when we had got about  
half way from Lexington to Concord, the other two, stopped at a House to  
awake the man, I kept along, when I had got about 200 paces a head of  
them, I saw two officers as before, I called to my company to come up, saying  
here was two of them, (for I had told them what Mr Devens told me, and  
of my being stoped) in an instant, I saw four of them, who rode up to  
me, with thier pistols in their hands, said G-d d-n you <sup>stop</sup> if you go an  
inch further, you are a dead man, immediately Mr Prescott came up we  
attempted to get thro them, but they kept before us, and swore, if we did  
not turn in to that pasture, they would blow our brains out (then had  
placed themselves opposite to a pair of trees, and had taken the horses down;  
they forced us in, when we had got in, Mr Prescott said put on, the tongs  
to the left, I to the right towards a wood, at the bottom of the Pasture.  
intending, when I gained that, to jump my Horse & run afoot; just as I  
reached it, out started six officers, seized my bridle, put thier pistols to my  
breast, ordered me to dismount, which I did: One of them, who appeared to  
have the command there, and much of a Gentleman, asked me where I came  
from; I told him, he asked what time I left it; I told him, he seemed surprisid,  
said I may I save your name, I answered my name is Revere, what said he  
Paul Revere; I answered yes; the others abused much; but he told me not to  
be afraid, no one should hurt <sup>me</sup>; I told him they would miss thier aim.

Turn over







*CIRCULAR LETTER,*  
OF THE  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

SIR,

A SOCIETY has lately been instituted in this town, called the HISTORICAL SOCIETY; the professed design of which is, to collect, preserve and communicate, materials for a complete history of this country, and accounts of all valuable efforts of human ingenuity and industry, from the beginning of its settlement. In pursuance of this plan, they have already amassed a large quantity of books, pamphlets and manuscripts; and are still in search of more: A catalogue of which will be printed for the information of the public.

THEY have also given encouragement to the publication of a weekly paper, to be called THE AMERICAN APOLLO; in which will be given the result of their inquiries, into the natural, political and ecclesiastical history of this country. A proposal for the printing of this paper is here inclosed to you; and it is requested that you would promote subscriptions for it; and contribute to its value and importance, by attention to the articles annexed. The Society  
beg



*To all the Friends of Science, Arts, Agriculture,  
Manufactures and Commerce.*

---

P R O P O S A L  
OF  
Joseph Belknap & Alexander Young,  
FOR PRINTING A WEEKLY PAPER;  
TO BE ENTITLED  
THE  
American Apollo,

*Containing the Publications of the HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY, Political and Commercial Intelligence;  
and other entertaining Matter.*



---

PRINTED AT BOSTON, (Massachusetts)  
BY J. BELKNAP AND A. YOUNG,  
MDCCXCI,





1795: "There is nothing like having a good depository, and keeping a *good look-out*, not waiting at home for things to fall into the lap, but prowling about like a wolf for the prey."

One of the great achievements of these early years was the rapidity and steadfastness with which the Society started the first of the long list of publications that have added so much honor to its name. As important manuscripts accumulated, the Members became increasingly eager to present them to the public in a permanent form. Arrangements were made with Joseph Belknap, the printer son of Dr. Jeremy, to issue a weekly newspaper called *The American Apollo* in which one section, paged separately, would be devoted to the Society's publications. Thirty-nine numbers, starting with the January 6, 1792, issue, appeared in this form; and a total of 208 pages of the first volume of *Collections* was thus printed. The venture was not financially successful, and other methods of printing the *Collections* had to be found. That they were found and that the Society's publications have continued steadily to this day speak well for the determination of that small group of devoted men. When the Members issued a proposal to the public for enlarging the subscriptions to the *Collections*, the following telling statement was made:

But if they should find themselves obliged to discontinue the publication of their *Collections*, it will be not for want of materials or exertion on their part, but for want of sufficient encouragement on the part of the public; and it will give them extreme pain to record this as one of the characteristics of the American people, that they are backward to encourage the publication of materials for the history of their own country.

The early nineteenth century saw a quiet but steady progress in the affairs of the Society. The holdings of the Library increased constantly, and volumes of *Collections* continued to appear regularly. When one considers that the Society had no official Editor until 1889 nor a paid Librarian until 1918, one must pay homage to those Members who served the Society so well. When John Gorham Palfrey delivered the semicentennial address before the Society on October 31, 1844, he spoke of the growing interest





1844. 1044 Oct 4  
I commenced keeping an account  
of my expenditures exclusive of  
my family expenses on the 1st day  
1839, & have found that I have a  
satisfaction in the pursuit of these  
things, which I hope to receive the "Well  
done" promise to those  
who use them right. God has  
showed the good things of the  
earth me in rich abundance. At  
this time, my family seem to have  
profited by his bountiful goodness.  
I have applied upwards of one  
hundred & fifty seven thousand  
dollars to objects not strictly or legally  
necessary, since Jan 1. 1839, beside  
one hundred & thirty five  
thousand dollars to my children &  
grand children together more  
than three hundred & fifty thousand  
dollars (including the \$26,727 of the  
present year). The more I give, the  
more I have. Again I submit these  
O Father for fidelity in the use of  
thy trusts. Amos Lawrence  
Boston October 4. 1844

Amos Lawrence on his Philanthropies  
(Amos Lawrence Papers)





in American history and of the increasing number of writers who were devoting themselves to it. "There are signs that the literary ambition of the country is choosing this as its favorite direction, and that the labors to which the attention of our society has been turned have been seasonably providing facilities for many, who, in these prosperous days of our republic, can afford to aspire after a name in letters." It must be remembered that for much of the nineteenth century the study of history was not a profession but the province of gentlemen-scholars who placed increasingly greater reliance on the rich holdings of the Massachusetts Historical Society and the many other historical societies that came along after it.

Despite the affluent state of the republic that Palfrey described the Society found its own treasury in anything but satisfactory condition. The meager amount received from dues and cash gifts was hardly enough to keep the Society in its home. In 1854 came the first legacy of \$10,000, a gift from the executors of Samuel Appleton (1766-1853), who was not a Member. The George Peabody gift followed some years later. Since both of these funds were primarily for publications the most pressing problem seemed solved. But by 1871 publishing costs had increased threefold, and President Robert C. Winthrop sadly reported, "we have been at our wits' ends for the means of paying the printers' bills." And even more sadly, "The University and the Museum of Science and of Art seem to be absorbing all the liberality of our community at present." By 1872 matters were looking up. The old building on Tremont Street, which the Society had taken over completely in 1856, was pulled down and a new one erected in its place. Since the two lower stories were leased to the Probate Office and the Registry of Deeds for Suffolk County, a steady income was now available. Here the Society remained until it met for the first time in its present building on March 9, 1899.

For many years after the Civil War the Society continued to have an intimate homogeneity in its membership. In March, 1927, at the age of seventy-seven, John Torrey Morse, Jr., spoke to the Society of his early years as a Member: "As my memory runs back to those remote old meetings of fifty years ago they





seem to me a little—not very much—but distinctly a little, different from those which we have to-day. In those days there was more social solidarity, if I may so express it, in the Society than is visible today. The members all knew each other, more or less intimately. When we came together there was a general shaking of hands and familiar saluting of friends. The effect was really quite that of a Club. Of course with the great expansion in society which has taken place since then, that condition is no longer to be expected. A splitting of groups has been inevitable. But it was rather pleasant then to feel intimate with each other's idiosyncrasies and to anticipate the way in which one member would accept or repudiate what another member was saying."

But during these years the Society did not keep completely to itself. On occasion it would speak out sharply and clearly against those who tried to palm off spurious portraits and documents on the community, erect unworthy monuments, or despoil historic sites. When in 1887 the General Court passed the resolution favoring the erection of the Crispus Attucks Monument to commemorate those who died in the Boston "Massacre" of 1770, the Society was greatly disturbed. At the May meeting John D. Washburn declared it to be the consensus of scholars that "these men were not acting in the character of patriots, but of rioters, and 'died as the fool dieth.'" A resolution was adopted and presented to the Governor which stated exactly the Society's position: "While greatly applauding the sentiment which erects memorials to the heroes and martyrs of our annals, the members of the Society believe that nothing but a misapprehension of the event styled the 'Boston Massacre' can have led to classifying these persons with those entitled to grateful recognition at the public expense." Valiant though it was, this protest was unsuccessful. On another occasion the Society helped block the plan of Harvey D. Parker to move King's Chapel back some twenty feet into the church graveyard. Mr. Parker, who had recently built his fine hotel on School Street, found the street too narrow for his purposes. According to Mr. Morse, "he wanted a cab stand and also plenty of room for fine equipages to bring important visitors to his door, and for carriages to carry Harvard students home." He was visibly annoyed when his project came to nought.





In the closing decades of the nineteenth century there was a marked change in the character of those writing American history. The gentleman-scholar was gradually displaced by the professional scholar trained in the seminars at Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Michigan, and other universities. From such scholars came natural and insistent demands to be allowed to use the great manuscript resources of the Society, which up until then had been restricted to the use of Members or carefully sponsored scholars. These rumblings of discontent against the Society's closed policy were brought to the attention of the Members in the Council's Report of 1893: "While it is our duty to see to the careful preservation of our possessions, while we must surround their use with such precautions as may insure their safety, our policy as to the manuscripts in our hands should be thoroughly generous. This only will secure the continued reception by us of valuable manuscripts. The rooms of this Society are not now the only possible place of deposit for family papers and historical material. Testators and donors can find other repositories and will do so, if we do not let our light shine before men."

Despite this warning note there was no immediate change in policy. Samuel Eliot Morison has told us that so late as 1910, when he was a graduate student at Harvard, he was not permitted to use the Society's card catalogues. The arrival of Worthington C. Ford at the Society as Editor in 1909, after service as Chief of the Division of Manuscripts of the Library of Congress, helped bring about the much-needed change. In the Report of 1910, after stating that the chief function of the Society was to offer a safe storage for historical papers, the Council went on to say: "It is generally admitted that the relations of the Society, not only to the outside public but to scholars, are far from what they should be, and demand a radical improvement. To accumulate and bury was never the intention of the founders of this Society. To collect and to hold rigidly for the use of the Society would be a suicidal act. The book or the manuscript which enters the doors of this Society has been lost to investigators, on the double plea that it was a private society, and that its collections should be held for the use of its members or its own publications. The Society has lost by cultivating such an impression, and,





by what is probably an unconscious narrowness of policy, permitting that impression to become general. . . . Your Council believes in perfect freedom in the use of the Society's accumulations and in giving every facility to those who come to consult them. In this way only can . . . the proper functions of the Society be fulfilled."

This manifesto had the desired effect. Within a few years' time the old barriers disappeared, and qualified students found a warm welcome awaiting them where before had existed only a frigid politeness. Indeed the change came so quickly that by 1916 the Council noted that the Society served outsiders better than it did its own Members. This process has now gone on for close to fifty years and has produced a research library that invites all scholars and interested readers to come and use its great resources of manuscripts and printed books. In return the Society asks only that researchers serve the cause of American history.







# The Collections

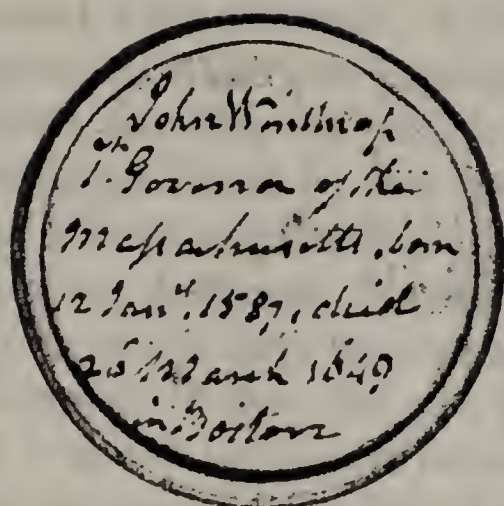




# THE COLLECTION

The following is a list of the names of the

The following is a list of the names of the



Miniature of John Winthrop



## THE COLLECTIONS

### *The Manuscript Collection*

The manuscript collection of the Society is its chief attraction. Of the 1,500 or so scholars who visit the Society each year perhaps 8 out of every 10 do so to investigate its rich manuscript holdings. This constant mining of our collection for historical information shows little evidence of exhausting the main supply, which is constantly being replenished. To list the names of those workers who have found treasure here over the years would be an endless task. Samuel Flagg Bemis, Henry Steele Commager, Samuel Eliot Morison, Allan Nevins, and a host of other distinguished American historians have returned time and again to consult our files. In addition to the Adams Papers, which are now being edited by this Society, the great editions of the writings of such outstanding figures in our history as Calhoun, Clay, Franklin, Jefferson, Marshall, Theodore Roosevelt, and Washington, which have been or are now being edited, would be sadly incomplete if they did not include our holdings. Several years ago a search for papers relating to the ratification of the Federal Constitution and the First Congress revealed that the Massachusetts Historical Society held the largest number outside of the Library of Congress. Recently Katharine Anthony, Anya Seton, Louise Hall Tharp, and other popular writers have produced books based in some measure on manuscript material found here. As has been stated elsewhere, the importance of the collection may best be suggested by pointing out that of 112 eminent Americans, from earliest to recent times and in every field of endeavor, whose papers the National Historical Publications Commission has recommended for publication, almost one-third are represented in the Massachusetts Historical Society by either the principal collection of their surviving papers or by significant bodies of correspondence (*A National Program for the Publication of Historical Documents: A Report*, Washington, 1954).

This great accumulation of historical manuscripts was not a happy accident. As we have seen, the founders worked tirelessly to attract important bodies of papers to their rooms. With the passing of the founders, the initial enthusiasm diminished some-





what, but manuscripts still continued to come in as gifts. By 1844 the Society could report 100 volumes of bound manuscripts including the papers of Belknap, William Heath, Thomas Hollis, James Otis, William Pepperrell, and Israel Williams. The greatest single gift to come to the Society in these early years was the manuscript journal of Governor John Winthrop kept from the time of his departure from England in the *Arbella* in 1630 until his death in 1649. Of outstanding importance, too, was the receipt of the original manuscript of George Washington's Newburgh Address of March 15, 1783. Delivered by Washington to a delegation of officers of the American army at Newburgh, New York, this address was successful in dissuading the officers from resorting to direct action in order to collect back wages from a harried Congress. It was at this meeting that Washington, having difficulty in reading excerpts of a letter to the officers, is reported to have put on new spectacles, saying, "Gentlemen, you will permit me to put on my spectacles, for I have not only grown gray, but almost blind, in the service of my country."

With the close of the Civil War, the Council called upon the Members of the Society to collect manuscripts and printed works relating to that conflict. This was done with considerable success as our collection of Civil War manuscripts indicates. About this time the great Samuel Sewall diary came to the Society as the gift of various Members. This diary, covering roughly the period from 1674 to 1729, has been called one of the truly great American diaries, for it gives "an incomparable picture of the mind and life of a Puritan of the transition period." The three volume edition of the diary published by the Society has long been out of print, but permission has been granted to a trade publisher to bring out a new edition.

Three major collections came to the Society at the end of the nineteenth century. In 1885 Francis Parkman began to place in the Library the holdings of original papers and transcripts which he had collected for his historical works. Thirteen years later Thomas Jefferson Coolidge presented to us the second greatest collection of Thomas Jefferson papers in existence. These so-called private papers of Thomas Jefferson had been offered for sale to Congress by the Randolph family but had not been pur-











*A Declaration by the Representatives of the United States of America  
in general Congress assembled*

When in the Course of human Events it becomes necessary for a People to advance from that Subordination, in which they have hitherto remained and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the equal and independent Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the Causes, which impell them to the Change.

We hold these Truths to be self evident; that all Men are created equal and independent; that from that equal Creation they derive Rights inherent and unalienable; among which are the Preservation of Life, and Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness; that to secure these Ends, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the governed; that whenever, any form of Government, shall become destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter, or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organising its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety, and Happiness. Prudence indeed will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes: and accordingly all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves, by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, begun at a distinguish'd Period, and pursuing invariably, the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Power, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the Necessity, which constrains them to exchange their former System of Government. The History of this present Majesty, is a History, of unremitting Injuries and Usurpations, among which no one Fact stands single or solitary to contradict the Uniform Line of the rest, all of which have in direct Object, the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be Submitted to a candid World, for the Truth of which We pledge a Faith, as yet unsullied by Falshood.





A Declaration by the Representatives of the United States of America in  
General Congress assembled.

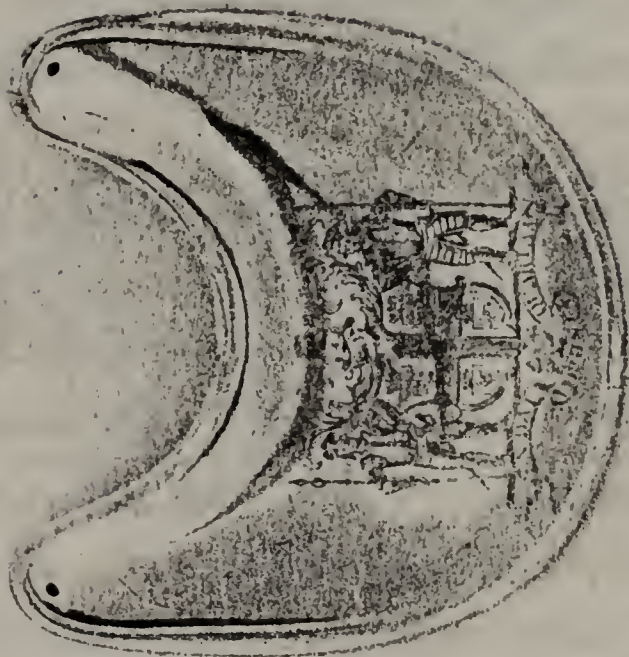
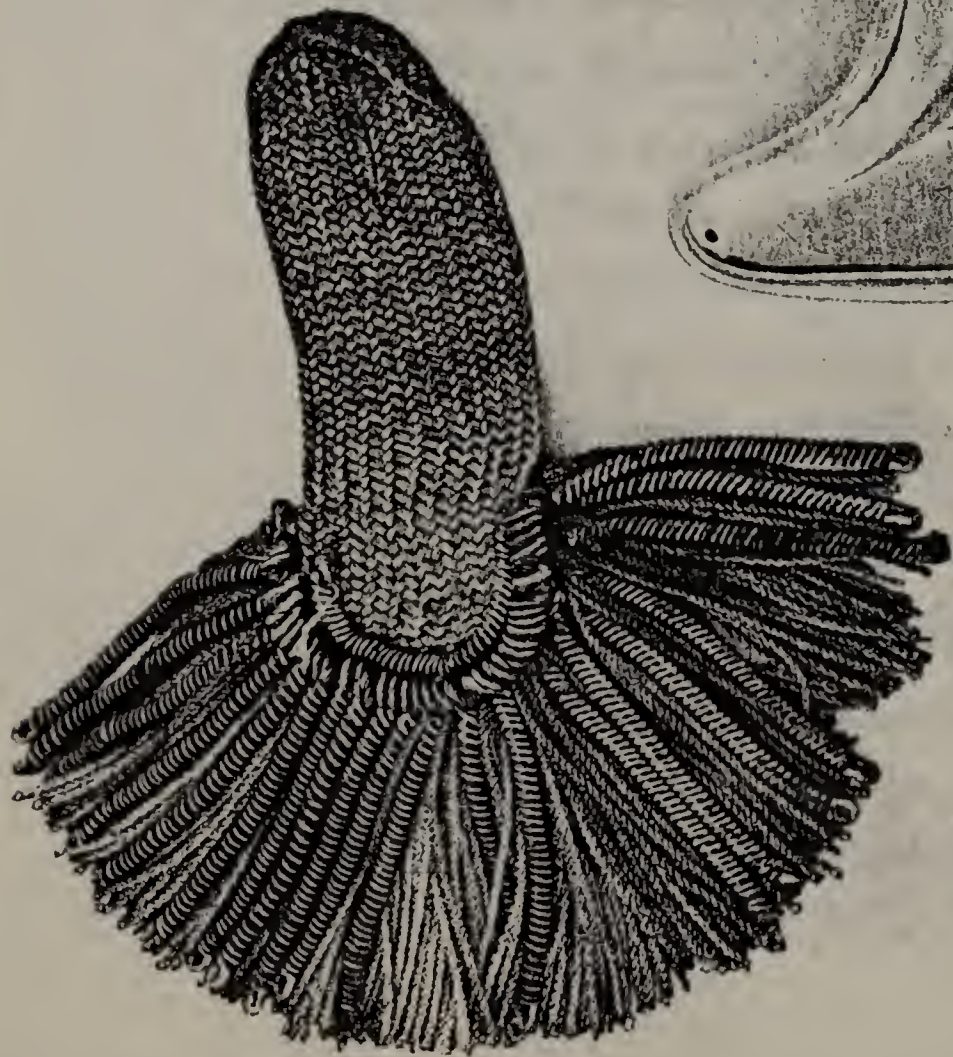
When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, & to assume among the powers of the earth the separate & equal station, to which the laws of nature & of nature's god entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal: that they are ~~endowed by their creator~~ with inherent & inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, & the pursuit of happiness: that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed: that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, & to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles, & organising its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. prudence indeed will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes: and accordingly all experience hath shewn that mankind are more disposed to suffer while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. but when a long train of abuses & usurpations, begun at a distinguished period, & pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, & to provide new guards for their future security: such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to expunge their former systems of government: the history of the present king of Great Britain is a history of unremitting injuries & usurpations, among which appears no solitary fact to contradict the uniform tenor of the rest, but all have in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states. to prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world for the truth of which we pledge a faith yet unsullied by falsehood. He has refused his assent to laws the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

he has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate & pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has neglected utterly to attend to them.







Washington's Gorget, Worn at Braddock's Defeat, and Epaulets, Worn at Yorktown





Head Quarters Newburgh  
15<sup>th</sup> of March 1783.

Officers,

By an anonymous summons, an attempt has been made to convene you together — how inconsistent with the rules of propriety! — how un-military! — and how subversive of all order and discipline — let the good sense of the Army decide. —

In the moment of this summons, another anonymous production was sent into circulation; addressed more to the feelings of patriots, than to the reason & judgment of the Army. — The author of the piece, is entitled to much credit for the goodness of his Pen: — and I could wish he had as much credit for the rectitude of his Heart: for as men see thro' different optics, and are induced by the reflecting faculties of the mind, to use different means to attain the same end; — the Author of the Address, should have had more charity, than to mark for suspicion





chased. Mr. Coolidge then decided to buy them for the Society. Since that time the Library of Congress has been permitted to microfilm the collection, and copies have been made available to Princeton University, where the great edition of Jefferson's writings is being published. In 1905 the Winthrop family papers were given to the Society by the estate of Robert C. Winthrop, Jr. This added to our holdings what might well be called the greatest single collection of American colonial manuscripts known.

The opening of the Society's collections to scholars and the adoption of a deliberate policy of attracting manuscripts to the Society have brought many benefits during the last half century. Changing economic and social conditions have also played their part, with the result that never in the history of the Society have so many important collections of papers been placed in our care. Most of these collections had been zealously guarded by their owners, but in one or two instances the Society bought papers that might otherwise have been destroyed. During these years the Society acquired such important collections as the Atkinson, Bel- lows, Dana, Everett, Lee, Livingston, Long, Minot, Morse, Paine, Quincy, Rhodes, Saltonstall, Sedgwick, Ward, and War- ren papers. Logbooks of such historic ships as the *Columbia* were secured and rich autograph collections placed on our shelves. Perhaps the highest point in our collecting history was reached in May, 1956, when gifts of the Adams family papers and the Paul Revere papers were simultaneously announced to the So- ciety. Since then other collections have been received, ranging in time from early colonial days to the middle 1950's. The process of acquiring manuscripts goes on unceasingly and, we trust, will continue to do so, for only in this way can we preserve for the use of future scholars the materials necessary to illuminate Ameri- ca's past. A brief listing of the manuscript collection of the So- ciety is to be found in our occasional publication, the *M.H.S. Miscellany*, for December, 1958.

### *Printed Materials*

The growth of the Society's collection of printed materials during the nineteenth century paralleled in many ways the growth





1774737



The Marquis de Lafayette, by Joseph Boze  
Commissioned by Thomas Jefferson





of its manuscript collection. During the last fifty years, however, it has not been able to maintain the same pace, particularly in the field of early American imprints, where prices and demand have increased enormously. Today the Library contains an estimated 300,000 titles dealing in general with American history, being especially rich in printed materials relating to Massachusetts and New England.

The Society's collection of early printed items relating to America is of high importance and is truly outstanding in the following categories: Cambridge and Boston imprints; books relating to the New England Indian wars, captivities, and treaties; collections of the early printed laws of Massachusetts and Plymouth colonies and other official publications; the writings of the Mathers; certain files of colonial newspapers; and Massachusetts broadsides, most of which have been listed by Worthington C. Ford in his compilation *Broadsides, Ballads &c. Printed in Massachusetts, 1639-1800* (our *Collections*, LXXV). The Library contains many "firsts," and the title pages of several of these are reproduced in this booklet.

Instead of continuing to collect on a wide scale the Society has now wisely decided to build to its strength and concentrate its efforts on acquiring all materials printed in Massachusetts through the year 1825. It also seeks to acquire early items relating to Massachusetts that have been printed elsewhere and the important basic materials on Massachusetts and New England history after 1825. Since it is necessary that the Library possess the working tools essential for the use of these basic materials by researchers and staff and for meeting the needs of its editors, the Society is attempting to build up two other categories: a strong bibliographical section and a solid collection of pertinent secondary works—local and national history, including the publications of other historical societies, and biography. Thus far it has been sadly handicapped in these efforts by a serious shortage of funds for acquiring and caring for such printed materials. Recently a Library Fund was established by the Council for the express purpose of enlarging, improving, and maintaining the Library collections. The number of contributions made to the





Fund during the past year by Members and friends has been a source of great encouragement to us.

In addition to its regular holdings the Library houses certain special libraries which are of varying importance. The Thomas Dowse Library was given to the Society just over a hundred years ago, and while it is upon the whole a gentleman's library it does contain some extremely valuable Americana. The Kingsmill Marrs and Robert C. Waterston libraries are in general of the same character as the Dowse Library. The Curtis and Courtenay Guild Library contains many volumes extra-illustrated with precious prints and manuscripts, and the Francis Russell Hart Library is especially rich in materials relating to the Caribbean area. The part of the Henry Adams Library which we own has proved to be extremely useful, and Henry Adams scholars have made it a happy hunting ground for the last twenty-five years.

#### *Maps, Prints, Drawings, Portraits, and Museum Objects*

Two years ago at the Spring Reception—an annual affair to which friends of the Society are invited—some of our more important historical maps, prints, and drawings were placed on exhibition. The variety and worth of our possessions in this field surprised not only our friends but ourselves. The more exciting examples were so handsomely reproduced in the Society's *Picture Book* of that year that there has been a constant demand for the publication since then.

Our collection of historical portraits is an exceedingly fine one and contains works by such noted artists as Blackburn, Blyth, Copley, Harding, Malbone, Smibert, and Stuart. Many of these portraits have been reproduced in earlier *Picture Books*. Perhaps our best known portrait is that of Mrs. Anne Pollard, the ancient lady who had herself painted in April, 1721, soon after her hundredth birthday. She has been borrowed so often by institutions exhibiting examples of early American art that she can truly be said to have compiled an amazing travel record. Her last outing was to the Brussels Universal and International Exhibition to which she was accompanied by our Indian weather vane, that once stood atop the old Province House.





The President of the United States.

Executive Mansion,

Washington, Nov. 20, 1863.

Hon. Edward Everett.

My dear Sir:

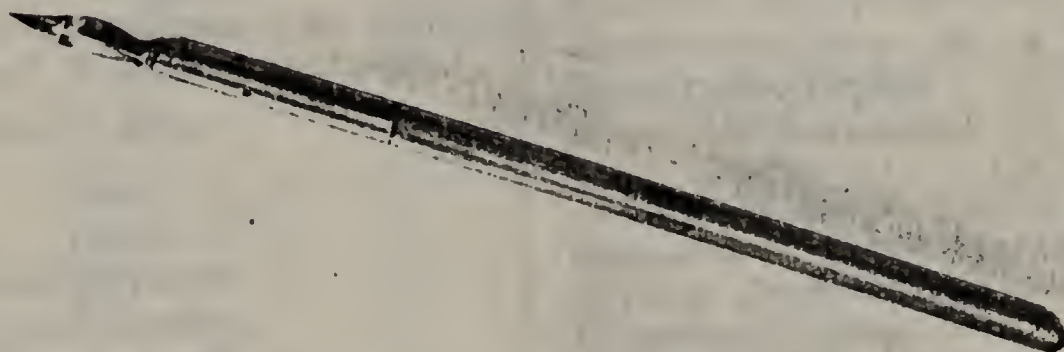
Your kind note of to day is received. In our respective parts yesterday, you could not have been excused to make a short address, nor I a long one. I am pleased to know that, in your judgment, the little I did say was not entirely a failure. Of course I knew Mr. Everett would not fail; and yet, while the whole discourse was eminently satisfactory, and will be of great value, there were passages in it which transcend my expectation. The point made against the theory of the general government being only an agency, whose principals are the states, was new to me, and, as I think, is one of the best arguments for the national supremacy. The tribute to our noble women for their angel-maintenance to the suffering soldiers, surpasses, in its way, as do the subjects of it, whatever has gone before.

Our sick boy, for whom you kindly enquire, we hope is better. The worst,  
Yours Obedient Servant,  
Abraham Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln on the Addresses at Gettysburg  
(Edward Everett Papers)



Besides a handsome display of miniatures, the Museum of the Society has many valuable objects on view, among them George Washington's gorget and epaulets, the pen with which Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, Paul Revere silver, Peter Faneuil's wine cooler, and other association pieces. It is worth noting that the Society has probably had a collection of objects with artistic or association value longer than any other organization in North America.



Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation Pen





Collegij Harvardini Cantabrigiæ Novæ Anglorum, Gradu-  
atorum Catalogus

1642.

Benjamin Woodbridge.  
Georgius Downing.  
Johannes Bulkley. Mr.  
Gulielmus Hubbert. Mr.  
Samuel Bellingham. Mr. M.D. (supd).  
Johannes Wilforus. Mr.  
Henricus Saltonstall.  
Petrus Barnardus.  
Nathaniel Breusterus.

1643.

Johannes Jonesius. Mr.  
Samuel Matherus. Mr. Socius.  
Samuel Danforth. Mr. Socius.  
Johannes Allin.

1644.

1645.

Johannes Oliverus  
Beremias Hollandus.  
Gulielmus Amesius.  
Johannes Russellus. Mr.  
Jacobus Ward. Samuel Stowson.  
Robertus Johnson.

1646.

Johannes Alcock. Mr.  
Johannes Brock. Mr.  
Georgius Stirk. Mr.  
Nathaniel White. Mr.

1647.

Jonathan Mitchel. Mr. Socius.  
Nathaniel Matherus. Mr.  
Comfort Starr. Mr. Socius.  
Johannes Birden.  
Abrahamus Walver.  
Georgius Haddenus. Mr.  
Gulielmus Mildmay. Mr.

1648.

1649.

Johannes Rogers. Mr.  
Samuel Eaton. Mr. Socius / 24. 1681.  
Urianus Jakes. Mr. Socius. Pres. m.e. July  
Johannes Collins. Mr. Soc. & Cantab.  
Johannes Bowers.

1650.

Gulielmus Stoughton. Mr. Cronia.  
Johannes Gloverus M.D. Albedonia.  
Josua Hobartus. Mr.  
Jeremias Hobartus. Mr.  
Edmundus Weld.  
Samuel Phillipsius. Mr.  
Leonardus Hoar. Mr. M.D. Cantab.  
Isaacus Allertonus.  
Jonathan Inceus. Mr.

1651.

Michael Wigglesworth. Mr. Soc.  
Marigena Cottonus. Mr.  
Thomas Dudleus. Mr. Soc.  
Johannes Gloverus. Mr.  
Henricus Butlerus. Mr.  
Nathaniel Pelhamus.  
Johannes Davisius. Mr.  
Isaac Chauncius. Mr.  
Ichabod Chauncius. Mr.  
Jonathan Burrows. Mr.

1652.

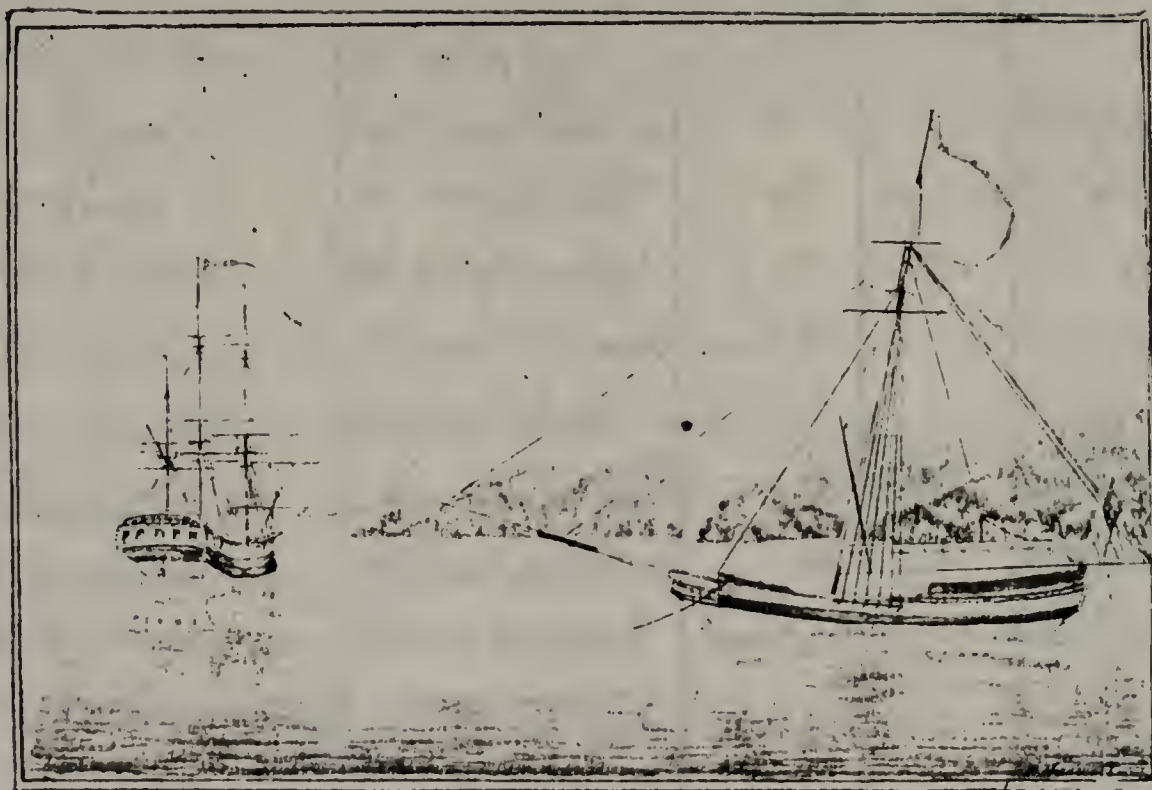
Josephus Rowlandsonus. m.e.











AVOYAGE  
ROUND THE WORLD  
*ONBOARD THE SHIP*  
COLUMBIA-REDIVIVA  
*and Steep*  
WASHINGTON.

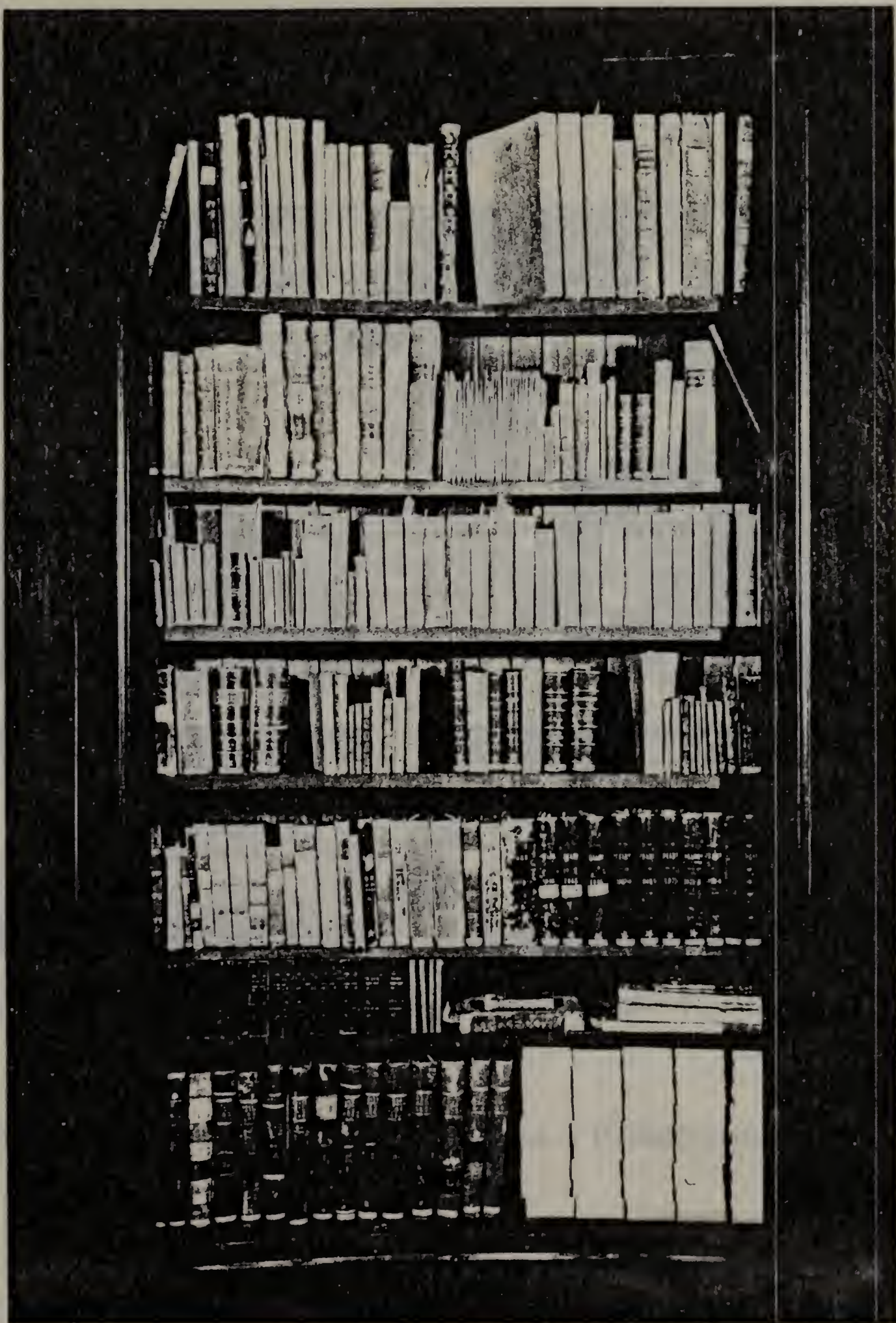




52 1772	Names	By whom sent in	When recd into y <sup>e</sup> House	Age	Discharge	Death
	John Fitzgerald	Mr. Wm Whitwell	Dec <sup>r</sup> 5. 1772	21	deced	Jan <sup>y</sup> 5. 1773
	Bethia Miller	Wm White Esq <sup>r</sup>	7			
p.	Wm Bryan	Capt. Sam <sup>l</sup> Partridge	8		Mar. 9. 1773	
p.	Wm Gordon	Mr. Wm Whitwell	16		Aug. 16. 1773	
	Wm Sheppard	Mr. Wm Greenleaf	d <sup>o</sup>	22	Jan <sup>y</sup> 16. 1773	
p.	Peter Anthony	Mr. Sam <sup>l</sup> Whitwell	21		run away	
	Mary Henshaw	Mr. Dan <sup>l</sup> Waldo	d <sup>o</sup>			H
	Richard Holland	John Leverett Esq <sup>r</sup>	24	22	deced Dec <sup>r</sup> 30. 1772	
p.	James Stewart	Mr. Dan <sup>l</sup> Waldo	26	55	deced Febru <sup>y</sup> 17. 1773	
p.	Mich <sup>l</sup> Bryan	Mr. Wm Whitwell	Jan <sup>y</sup> 4. 1773		discharged	
	Joseph Boardman wife				run away	
	Child	Mr. Leverett Esq <sup>r</sup>	12		deced Mar. 6. 1773	
	Joseph Mountfort	Mr. Wm Whitwell	18			
p.	Henry Reynolds	Mr. Sam <sup>l</sup> Whitwell	20	30	deced Apr <sup>l</sup> 5. 1773	
p.	Marg <sup>th</sup> Sebastian	Mr. Wm Greenleaf	d <sup>o</sup>	42	deced June 23. 1773	
p.	Peq Adams	Mr. Gore Esq <sup>r</sup>	23			
	Cuffa Negro of Mr. Durin	Capt. Sam <sup>l</sup> Partridge	26	30	deced June 18. 1773	
p.	James West	Mr. Wm Greenleaf	d <sup>o</sup>	45	deced Jan <sup>y</sup> 12. 1773	
	Joseph Webb	Mr. Wm Whitwell	27		discharged	
p.	James Griffin	Capt. Sam <sup>l</sup> Partridge	29		died the same day	
p.	Barth <sup>l</sup> Guntain & wife	Mr. Sam <sup>l</sup> Whitwell	30		June 15. 1773	
	Robert M <sup>r</sup> . Near	Capt. Sam <sup>l</sup> Partridge	July	35	deced June 25. 1773	
p.	Thomas Mackaya					
	Child	Mr. Wm Greenleaf	d <sup>o</sup>		discharged Aug. 20. 1773	
p.	Elizabeth Jones & her				discharged April 18. 1773	
	2 Children	Mr. Sam <sup>l</sup> Whitwell	6			
p.	Wellm Sharp	Mr. Dan <sup>l</sup> Waldo	14		Dec <sup>r</sup> 25. 1773	
	Christian Remick			20	deced Mar. 10. 1773	
	Wife and	John Leverett Esq <sup>r</sup>	24			
	2 Children					
	Abig <sup>l</sup> Hairblow	Wm White Esq <sup>r</sup>	25			







The Adams Papers  
A Portion of the Originals and of the Microfilm Edition  
Courtesy *Life* Magazine







*A Prospect of the Colledges in Cambridge in New England*

*J. Burges del.*

*R. Smith sc.*

Only Known Surviving Copy of the Burgis View of Harvard College (1726)





# DECLARATION OF FORMER

PASSAGES AND PROCEEDINGS BETWIXT THE ENGLISH  
and the Narrowgansets, with their confederates, Wherin  
the grounds and iustice of the ensuing warre are opened  
and cleared.

*Published, by order of the Commissioners for the united Colonies;  
At Boston the 11 of the sixth month 1645.*

**T**HE most considerable part of the English Colonies professe  
they came into these parts of the world with desire to advance  
the kingdome of the Lord Jesus Christ, and to inioye his preci-  
ous Ordinances with peace, and (to his praise they confesse) he hath not fail-  
ed their expectation hitherto, they have found safety, warmth and rest sh-  
ing under his wing to the satisfaction of their soules. But they know, and  
have considered that their Lord & master is King of righteousness and peace,  
that he gives answerable lawes, and casts his subjects into such a mould and  
frame; that (in their weak measure) they may hold forth his virtues in their  
course and carriage, not only with the nations of Europe, but with the bar-  
barous natives of this wilderness. And accordingly both in their treaties &  
converse they have had an awfull respect to divine rules, endeavouring to  
walk uprightly and inoffensively, & in the midst of many injuries and inso-  
lencies to exercise much patience and long suffering towards them.

The Pequots grew to an excesse of violence and outrage, and proudly  
turned aside from all wayes of justice & peace, before the sword was drawn  
for any hostile attempts made against them. During those wars, & after  
the Pequots were subdued, the English Colonies were carefull to continue  
and establish peace with the rest of the Indians, both for the present & for  
posterity, as by severall treaties with the Narrowganset & Mobiggū Saga-  
mores may appeare: which treaties for a while were in some good measure  
fully observed by all the Indians, but of late the Narrowgansets & especially  
the Nianticks their confederates have many wayes injuriously broke & vio-  
lated the same by entertaining and keeping amongst them, not only many of  
the Pequot nation, but such of them as have had their hands in the blood &  
murder of the English, seizing and possessing at least a part of the Pequots  
country





# A BRIEF RULE

To guide the Common People of  
NEW-ENGLAND

How to order themselves and theirs in the

## Small Pocks, or Measels.

**T**he *Small Pox* (whose nature and cure the *Measels* follow) is a disease in the blood, endeavouring to recover a new form and state.

1. This nature attempts:—1. By Separation of the impure from the pure, thrusting it out from the Veins to the Flesh.—2. By driving out the impure from the Flesh to the Skin.

3. The first Separation is done in the first four days by a Feaverish boiling (Ebullition) of the Blood, laying down the impurities in the Flethy parts which kindly effected the Feaverish tumult is calmed.

4. The second Separation from the Flesh to the Skin, or *Suppurates* is done through the rest of the time of the disease.

5. There are several Errors in ordering these sick ones in both these Operations of Nature which prove very dangerous and commonly deadly either by overmuch hastening Nature beyond its own pace, or in hindering of it from its own vigorous operation.

6. The Separation by Ebullition in the Feaverish heat is overhastened by too much Clothes, too hot a room, hot Cordials, as *Discordium*, *Gallicum*, *pinar* and such like, for hence come *Purpures*, dangerous excessive sweats, or the flowing of the Pocks into one oversteering sore, vulgarly called the *Flox*.

7. The same Separation is overmuch hindered by preposterous cooling that Feaverish boiling heat, by bloodletting, *Glisters*, *Pommes*, *purges*, or cooling medicines. For though it ease many times hasten the coming forth of the *Pox* yet they take away that supply which should keep them out till they are ripe, wherefore they sink in again to the deadly danger of the sick.

8. If a *Phrenisy* happen, or through a *Plurisie* (that is fulness of blood) the Circulation of the blood be hindered, and thereupon the whole mass of blood choked up, then either let blood, or see that the diet, or medicines be not altogether cooling, but let them in no wise be heating, therefore let him lie no otherwise covered in his bed then he was wont in health: His Chamber not made hot with fire if the weather be temperate, let him drink small Beer only warm'd with a Toff let him lap up then *water-gruel* or *water-pottage* made only of Indian Flour and water, instead of *Oat-meal*: Let him eat *bold Apples*: But I would not at this time any medicine besides. By this means that excessive *Ebullition* (or flowing of his blood) will by degrees abate, and the Symptoms cease; if not, but the blood be so injured that it will admit no delay, then either let blood (if Age will bear it) or else give some notably cooling medicine, or refresh him with nice free Air.

9. But if the boiling of the blood be weak and dull that there is cause to fear it is not able to work a Separation as it's wont to be in such as have been let blood, or are fat, or Eleanatic, or brought low by some other sickness, or Labour of the (*Gonorrhoea*) turning of the Reins, or some other Excretion: In such Cases, *Cordials* must drive them out, or they will die.

10. In time of driving out the *Pocks* from the Flesh, here care must be had that the *Purules* keep out in a right measure till they have attain'd their end without going in again for that is deadly.

11. In this time take heed when the *Pustules* appear whilst not yet ripe, least by too much heat there arise a new *Ebullition* (or Feaverish boiling) for this troubles the driving out, or brings back the separated parts into the blood, or the Flethy parts overheated are disabled from a right supuration or lastly the temper of the blood and tone of the Flesh is so perverted that it cannot overcome and digest the matter driven out.

12. Yet on the other hand the breaking out must not be hindered, by exposing the sick unto the cold. The degree of heat must be such as is natural agree with the temper of the Flethy parts: That which exceeds or falls short is dangerous: Therefore the reason of the year, Age of the sick, and their manner of life here require a discreet and different Consideration requiring the Counsel of an expert Physician.

13. But if by any error a new *Ebullition* arise, the same art must be used to allay it as is before express'd.

14. If the *Pustules* go in and a flux of the belly follows (for else there is no such danger) then *Cordials* are to be used, yet moderate and not too often for fear of new *Ebullition*.

15. If much spitting (*Purification*) follow you may hope all will go well, therefore by no means hinder it: Only with warm small Beer let their mouths be washed.

16. When the *Pustules* are dried and fallen, purge well, especially if it be in *Autumn*.

17. As soon as this disease therefore appears by its signs, let the sick abstain from Flesh and Wine, and open Air, let him use small Beer warm'd with a Toff for his ordinary drink, and moderately when he desires it. For food use *water-gruel*, *water-pottage*, and other things having no manifest hot quality, easy of digestion, boiled Apples, and milk sometimes for change, but the coldness taken off. Let the use of this be according to the season of the year, and the multitude of the *Pocks*, or as found persons

are wont. In Summer let him rise according to custom, yet so as to be defended both from heat and cold in Exercise, the disease will be the sooner over and less troublesome, for being kept in bed nourisheth the Feaverish heat and makes the *Pocks* break out with a painful inflammation.

19. In a colder season and breaking forth of a multitude of *Pustules*, forcing the sick to keep his bed, let him be covered according to his custom in health: a moderate fire in the water being kindled in his Chamber, morning and Evening: neither need he keep his Arms always in bed, or lay still in the same place, for fear lest he should sweat which is very dangerous especially to youth.

20. Before the fourth day use no medicines to drive out, nor be too strict with the sick; for by how much the more gently the *Pustules* do grow, by so much the fuller and perfecter will the Separation be.

21. On the fourth day a gentle *Cordial* may help once given.

22. From that time a small draught of warm milk (not hot) a little dil'd with *Saffron* may be given morning and evening till the *Pustules* are come to their due greatness and ripeness.

23. When the *Pustules* begin to dry and crust, least the rotten vapours strike inward which sometimes causeth sudden death; Take morning and evening some temperate *Cordial* as four or five Spoonfuls of *Melago* mixt with a little *Saffron*.

24. When the *Pustules* are dryd and fallen off, purge once and again, especially in the *Autumn* Pocks.

25. Beware of anointing with *Oils*, *Fats*, *Ointments*, and such defensives, for keeping the corrupted matter in the *Pustules* from drying up, by the moisture they fret deeper into the Flesh, and so make the more deep *Siccers*.

26. The young and lively men that are brought to a plentiful sweat in this sickness, about the eighth day the sweat stops of itself, by no means afterwards to be taken out again, the sick thereupon feels most troublesome distast and anguish, and then makes abundance of water and so dyes.

Few young men and strong thus handled escape, except they fall into abundance of spitting or plentiful bleeding at the nose.

27. Signs discovering the Assault at first are beating pain in the head, Forehead and temples, pain in the back, great sleepiness, glistening of the eyes, shining glimmering, seen before their sitting of them also with tears flowing of themselves, itching of the Nose, short breath, dry Cough, oft sneezing, hoarseness, heat, redness, and little of pricking over the whole body, terrors in the sleep, sorrow and restlessness, beating of the heart, *Urine* sometimes in health, sometime filthy from great *Ebullition*, and all this or many of these with a Feaverish distemper.

28. Signs warning of the probable Event. If they break forth easily, quickly, and soon come to ripeness, if the Symptoms be gentle, the Feaver mild, and after the breaking forth it abates; If the voice be free, and breathing easy, especially if the *Pox* be red white distinct, soft low, round, sharp top'd only without and not in the inward parts, if there be large bleeding at the nose. These signs are hopeful.

29. But such signs are doubtful, when they difficultly appear, when they sink in again when they are black, blewish, green, hard, all in one, if the Feaver abate not with their breaking forth: if there be Swooning, difficulty of breathing, great thirst, quivering, great uneasiness, and if it is very dangerous, if there be join'd with it some other malignant Feaver, called by some the pestilential *Pox*, the *Spotted Feaver* is oft join'd with it.

30. Deadly Signs if the *Flux* of the *Bills* happen, when they are broke forth, if the *Urine* be bloody, or black, or the *Ordure* of that Colour; Or if pure blood be cast out by the Belly or Gums: These Signs are for the most part deadly.

*These things have I written Candid Reader, not to inform the Learned Physician that hath much more cause to understand what pertains to this disease than I, but to give some light to those that have not such advantages, leaving the difficulty of this disease to the Physicians Art, wisdom, and Faithfulness: for the right managing of them in the whole Course of this disease tends both to the Patients safety, and the Physicians desired Success in his Administration: For in vain is the Physicians Art employed, if they are not under a Regular Regiment. I am, though no Physician, yet a well wisher to the sick: And thus I leave the Lord to turn our hearts, and stay his hand, I am*

A Friend, Reader to thy  
Welfare,

21. 11. 1677.

Thomas Thacher.

BOSTON. Printed and sold by John Filer. 1677.





The Redeemed Captive, Returning  
to ZION.

A Faithful HISTORY  
OF  
Remarkable Occurrences,  
IN THE  
**Captivity**  
AND THE  
**Deliverance**

OF  
Mr. John Williams ;

Minister of the Gospel, in DEERFIELD,  
Who, in the Desolation which beset that  
Plantation, by an Incurſion of the French  
& Indians, was by *Them* carried away,  
with his Family, and his Neighbourhood,  
unto C A N A D A.

Whereto there is annexed a SERMON  
Preached by him, upon his RETURN, at  
the Lecture in Boston, Decemb. 5. 1706.  
On those Words, Luk. 8. 39. *Return to thine  
own House, and shew how great Things God  
hath done unto thee.*

Boston in N. E. Printed by B. Green, for  
Samuel Phillips, at the Brick Shop, 1707.





FATHER  
Abraham's  
S P E E C H

To a great Number of People,  
at a *Vendue* of Merchant-Goods ;

Introduced to the PUBLICK by

*Poor Richard,*

A famous PENNSYLVANIA Conjuror, and  
Almanack-Maker,

In Answer to the following QUESTIONS.

*Pray, Father Abraham, what think you of the  
Times? Won't these heavy Taxes quite ruin  
the Country? How shall we be ever able to  
pay them? What would you advise us to?*

*To which are added,*  
SEVEN curious PIECES OF WRITING;

---

B O S T O N, NEW-ENGLAND,  
*Printed and Sold by Benjamin Mecom, at  
The NEW PRINTING-OFFICE,  
Opposite to the Old-Brick Meeting, near the  
Court-House.*

---

NOTE, Very good Allowance to those who take them  
by the Hundred or Dozen, to sell again.





# ספעשיאל אפיעל צו די אידישע וואומערס פון ווארד 8

אידישע וואומערס:—

דיענסטאג דעם 1-טען מאי, 6 אוהר מארגענס וועלען די פערשידענע וואומינג פלעטצער איבער גאנץ סטייט אף מאכטשוסעטס געפֿענט ווערען אום אפצוגעבען אינווערע שטימען פאר דעלעגאטען צום קאנסטיטוציאנאל קאנגרעס, דאס איז איין עלעקשאן, וועלכער טרעפט זיך איין מאהל אין 50 יאהר, און דארום איז ער זא וויכטיג!

און יעצט אין דער צייט ווען אויף יענער זייט ים פרעהען זיך אונזערע שוועסטער און ברידער מיט דעם ארונ-טערזעצונג פון ניקאליקען, און אין דער זעלבער צייט קענען מיר זיך אויך פרעהען דא אויף דער זייט ים אז מיר האבען דערלעבט צו זיין די יעניגע, וועלכע מיט אונזער וואוט וועלען מיר שיקען דעלעגאטען אויסצובעסערען אונזער קאנגרעסטיאנע, וועלכע וועט זיין פאר דעם וואהל און בעסטען פאר דאס גאנצע פאלק בכלל און די אידען בפרט!

נאר אבער אום דיעזע שמחה זאל זיין אין גאנצען אן ערפאלג איז נויטהיג זיך גוט צו בעטראכטען ווער אונזערע דע-לעגאטען זאלען זיין, מיר די היברו קאמיטע, נאכקוקענדיג די רעקארדס פון די קאנדידאטען פון ווארד 8, האבען מיר אויס-געפונען אז עס איז אונזער פפליכט אלס אידען, און אלס סיטיזענס צו אינדאדערסירען דעם נאכעלען יונגען הארווארד קאלעדזש-מאן **טשארלס פ. קורטיס דער זון** פון דעם געוועזענעם פאלקס קאמיטאטע קורטיס אף באסטאן.

מיר אידען גלויבען אז דער עפעל פאלט גיט ווייט פון בוים און דערמאנהענדיג זיך אן די צייטען ווען קורטיס איז געווען פאלקס קאמיטאטע און יעדער איינצעלנער, וועלכער איז נאר געקומען אין בעריהרונג מיט איהם גיט צו אז אזא נא-בעלער פראגרעסיווער מענטש איז זעלטען צו געפינען, און דיעזע אלע מעלות האט זיין זון געירשניט, ער איז איינער פון די ראדיקאלסטע מענטשען וואס עס גיבט נאר, קיין אונטערשייד פון איד און קריסט, ער האט עס איבערצייגט ביי יעדער געלעגנהייט, וואס ער האט געהאט, און מיר אפעלירען צו אייך, גיט דיעזען אידען פריינד טשארלעס פ. קורטיס איינער וואס און דאן וועט איהר זיין זיכער אז איהר האט געהאטן איינער פפליכט פאר זיך זעלבסט און פאר דאס גאנצע אידישע פאלק בכלל.

צום לעצטען ווילען מיר אויך צו אייך אפעלירען וועגען אונזער גרויסען אידישען פילאנטראפישס אסיסטענט יונייטעד סטייטס טרעזשורער טשארלעס ב. סטרעקער, ער איז א דעלעגאט עס-לארדזש, דאס הייסט איבער דער גאנצער סטייט, און מיר אלס אידען איז אונזער פפליכט צו צייגען די אייניגונג פון אידישען פאלק און וואומען פאר טשארלעס ב. סטרעקער.

פארגעסט נישט דיענסטאג, דעם 1-טען מאי.

**טשארלעס פ. קורטיס, פיר די ווארד דעלעגאט**

**טשארלעס ב. סטרעקער, עס לארדזש**

Be Sure and vote for these two men

DELEGATE AT LARGE

**CHARLES B. STRECKER**

X

DELEGATE FROM THIS WARD

**CHARLES P. CURTIS, Jr.**

X

אכטונגספאל, די קאמיטע.

Edward B. Lunn, 53 Grove St.

Harry Lepie, 13 Revere St.

Abraham Korinsky, 80 Phillips St.

Benjamin Lourie, 77a Revere St.

Morris Nupol, 33 Anderson St.



ג. ב. די פאלס זיינען אפען פון 6 אוהר פריה ביז 4 אוהר ביי-טאג.

Martin Lomasney's Successful

"Special Appeal to the Jewish Voters from Ward 8," 1917

(Charles P. Curtis Papers)



## Publications





## PUBLICATIONS

The reputation of the Massachusetts Historical Society as a great publishing organization is securely fixed in the minds of students of American history. Evidence has been given that the Society from its very beginning displayed an interest in making its materials available to the scholarly world through publication. The first volume of *Collections*, started so bravely in *The American Apollo*, has since been followed by seventy-eight other volumes containing a vast amount of source materials on various aspects of our history, ranging from the early explorations of America through the first decade of the twentieth century. This series continues, and volumes to contain selections from the papers of Robert Treat Paine and of the Saltonstall family are now in preparation. Five volumes of what we trust will be the definitive edition of the papers of the Winthrop family have been issued, and more are on the way. We have published ten volumes of *Sibley's Harvard Graduates*, a series containing biographical sketches of members of the early classes, all but the first three having been prepared by our Sibley Editor, Dr. Clifford K. Shipton; and the number of volumes still to come stretches out endlessly. This major publication reflects great credit on the Society, and it is pleasant to record that Dr. Shipton's brilliant work was called to the attention of the general public recently in an article in the June, 1958, issue of *American Heritage*.

Since the original printed volumes of the *Journals of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts* for the years 1715-1776 are now extremely scarce and difficult to come by, the Society undertook many years ago to issue a reprint series. Thus far thirty-three volumes have appeared covering the period 1715-1756. The *M.H.S. Miscellany* is an occasional publication of the Society available on request that serves as a medium for printing certain outstanding documents and lists that warrant immediate publicity. Five numbers have appeared. The *Picture Book* in your hands is the sixth in an annual series begun in 1954 to call attention to certain aspects of the Society's holdings. In addition to the foregoing, the Society has issued more than twenty special publications, the most notable of which was *The Education of Henry Adams*; also photostat reproductions of 430 rare pam-





phlets garnered from libraries all over the world in its series Photostat Americana; and similar reproductions of such rare newspaper files as the *Boston News-Letter*, the *Georgia Gazette*, and the *Virginia Gazette*.

Mention has been made of the gift of the great collection of Adams Papers to the Society in 1956. A microfilm edition of this collection is about to be completed and copies of the final section sent to subscribing research libraries on both sides of the Atlantic. The first volumes of a comprehensive letterpress edition of the Adams Papers are scheduled for publication in 1960. This edition is being issued under the supervision of the Society and under the editorship of Lyman H. Butterfield. Time, Inc. has made this possible by subscribing \$250,000 to the project, and Harvard University Press over its new Belknap Press imprint has assured the publication of the series.

The seventy-first volume of the Society's *Proceedings* is scheduled to appear this year. This series contains records of meetings, papers, and documentary articles of first importance. In no other publication of the Society can its history be so clearly traced. When the long overdue history of the Massachusetts Historical Society is written, the author will find within these soberly bound volumes some delightful surprises—see James Russell Lowell's communication in *Proceedings*, 2nd Ser., XI (1896-97), 208-209—for the Membership had more than its share of strong-minded men who did not hesitate to express themselves not only on the pressing problems of their day but sometimes also on the vagaries of human life.



20 Jan. 31 1915

1603 H STREET

Dear Charles

Will you kindly convey to Mr. Parke my regrets that I can't gratify his wish. The sheets of the Education were sent out near ten years ago for correction and suggestion. After long labor and experiment, for reasons that you know, the idea of publication was abandoned in 1912.





The volumes have remained floating about, beyond recovery. I do not suppose they do any harm, but they are only an incomplete experiment which I shall never finish. None remain to distribute.

As a member of the Hist. Socy. I did, however, give a copy to your library, the only copy. I think, accessible to the public.

- I trust Mr. Swift will accept this excuse, since, after all, the time





that has elapsed since  
1905 is no trifling.

Yrs ever

Henry Adams

Henry Adams to his Brother Charles  
On the Private Edition of his *Education*  
(Adams Papers, Fourth Generation)



## The Society's Future Role





## THE SOCIETY'S FUTURE ROLE

After an existence of more than a century and a half the Society finds itself in a position greatly changed from 1791. It is now only one of a group of specialized libraries and museums in Metropolitan Boston. Many of the functions that are ordinarily discharged by historical societies in other parts of the country have been assumed in this area by neighboring institutions. In Boston alone there is a genealogical society; a great public library and a famous proprietary library, both with important special collections; a society devoted to New England antiquities and the preservation of historic houses; a magnificent museum with rich holdings of American paintings, silver, and furniture; a society with a museum devoted to the history of the City of Boston; and a half-dozen other learned societies. Within a forty-five mile radius, there are such well-known libraries as Harvard's Houghton and Widener, the John Carter Brown, the American Antiquarian Society, and the Essex Institute and the Peabody Museum of Salem. In this setting the Society feels that it can make its greatest contribution by continuing to serve as a research institution devoting its attention to the collection of historical manuscripts and books in its special field, bringing minds capable of exploiting and interpreting these primary sources into contact with them, and publishing or arranging the publication of the results. It does not and should not compete with the long-established programs of nearby institutions. Nor does it or should it pursue a program of popular education, with such attendant features as news stories, lecture series, and radio broadcasts. It will concentrate rather on furthering the kind of basic research that leads to a deeper and truer understanding of our past.

While the calls on the Society's small staff and large holdings are heavy and continuous, they are always welcome. Generations of scholars and professional writers from the greenest beginner to the most seasoned veteran have come to know and respect the Society's co-operative attitude and have sought to express their appreciation in many ways. It would be difficult indeed to find any major printed work dealing with the history of this area that does not bear testimony in its footnotes or in its prefatory





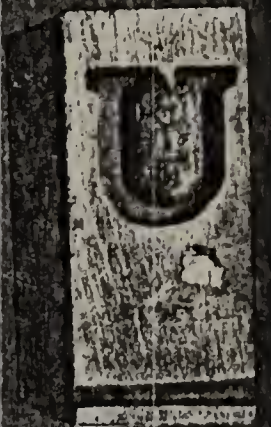
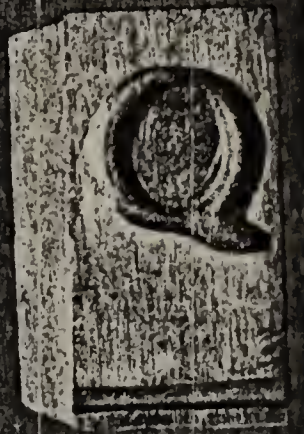
acknowledgments to generous help received from the Society. By this yardstick do we measure the success of our efforts.

Although the value of the Society's collections is too great to be estimated, its physical plant is far from ideal. The present building is handsome and pleasant to work in, but there is a definite shortage of both office and book space. In the preliminary planning for the building in the 1890's provision was made for a large bookstack area, but this was later eliminated because of unforeseen economic changes. Since then the pressure for more space has increased steadily as the building has been put to greater use. For the past year Committees on the Library, House, and Museum have been busy surveying the building in the hope that certain improvements can be effected that will make it both more usable for its collections and more attractive to its visitors. There is every prospect that this can be done and that in the near future our services can be expanded.

Since the Massachusetts Historical Society is a private organization, almost completely dependent upon the income of a modest endowment—all Membership dues were abolished in 1907—the road ahead may not be an easy one. Yet the loyal support of our Members and friends fortifies us in our belief that the Society's contribution to American historical scholarship will be even greater in the future than it has been in the past.









F 847.5543















